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Thurston: Center of All Things

By Annette Alvidres

With the development of new projects, expansion of old programs, and issues both local and national that affect the campus, Dr. Alice Thurston, Valley College president, has become a heroine to some and infamous to others.

It has been almost two years since Dr. Thurston came to Valley to be the college's and the district's first woman president.

She is bold and outspoken proving that the 19 years of past experience she brought with her to the college makes her the leader

Those 19 years of service include teaching, counseling, director of admissions. director of counseling, dean of students, director of instructional research, coordinator of student personnel services, and various other administrative positions along with having been president at another community college back East.

Surely this is indicative of one who has come so far, but it would be unfair to not give credit to those members of Dr. Thurston's family who may have influenced her along the way.

Both of Dr. Thurston's parents were in education; her father was headmaster of a private college preparatory school, and her mother was a music teacher.

Her own educational endeavors began at Carleton College in Northfield, Minn. She transferred after two years to Denison University in Granville, Ohio, where she received her bachelor's degree in psychology and minored in English. She also earned a teaching certificate in English.

She received her master's degree in guidance while attending Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., and for her doc-

torate in counseling and psychology, she attended George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

During and after her education, Dr. Thurston worked in teaching, counseling, and administrative positions which all led to her presidency at Garland Junior College for women in Back Bay, Boston for four years, just before coming to Valley.

As well, she has had numerous articles published in scholarly journals. And with a friend employed in the same educational institution as she was, she co-authored a book on student personnel work in community colleges that was used frequently in graduate programs. "But it's run its course," Dr. Thurston says, since it was published several years ago.

been postponed now till later in the month. And, I think this meeting is the final step before it goes to an architect for the schematics.

We have put an enormous amount of work on it and it hasn't been just a matter of a committee sitting around and talking. The community committee and the campus committee both had experts in each phase of the arts so that we have a very careful plan.

Question: When do you feel it will be completed?

Dr. Thurston: It looks like four more years, at least.

Question: How is the center being financed?

Dr. Thurston: There's still a funding problem. One possibility is this public con-

Removal of money from Bank of America "became a 'moral issue' without anybody being told where and what the 'moral issue' was, except this big not-too-well-understood thing called boycott."

In the following informal interview, Dr. Thurston tells how she feels about the new programs being initiated at Valley, about issues related to the college, and areas of neglect on the campus.

Question: Many people are waiting in anticipation for the creation of Valley's Cultural Arts Complex. Can you tell us where it is now!

Dr. Thurston: The Cultural Center puzzle has come a long way. We have prepared a proposal which the district has. There was to struction act. Another is to build the performing arts complex partly with Community Services funds.

The tax would have to be increased, I think, to take care of this construction.

Question: Community Services is also paying for the construction of Valley's swimming pools, right?

Dr. Thurston: Yes, they're also paying for the swimming pools.

The swimming pool — well, now it's kind of off again, on again. I know it seems from the students' point of view like it takes

forever to get something done. But, any major proposal of that sort has to go through committees and various offices and be reviewed and reviewed and reviewed.

But in the meantime, we'll probably come up with something better because you keep honing it, you keep sharpening it. The swimming pool is literally a reality. You can see it coming to be. And one of the good things is we researched and planned for the pool.

Question: How did you do this? Dr. Thurston: We had to look at what traffic patterns would be. I mean, in terms of people who would use the pool and what would they use for dressing rooms? And if we used existing facilities in the gyms, how do they get in and out of the buildings without leaving them a mess and still keeping the rest of the buildings secure? The more we got into it the more impossible this

Question: How was this problem solved? Dr. Thurston: It was for this reason that the district added the bathhouse, which is going to save an enormous amount of headaches. You can just picture all the people from the community and all the kids coming in pouring into the gyms at night. Question: Who will use the pool?

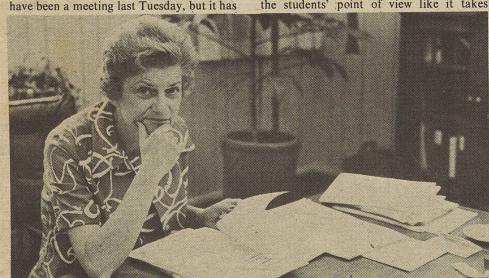
Dr. Thurston: We still have some problems to resolve in connection with that because it will be jointly used by athletics, by Community Services, and by the Physical Education Departments. Now it's going to be a coordination job.

Ouestion: When do you anticipate its completion?

Dr. Thurston: It will be finished in the Fall ('77) sometime.

Please turn to Page 3, Col. 1





REFLECTING on nearly two years of hard work as president of Valley College, Dr. Alice J. Thurston said there has been an enormous amount of work done on the proposed Cultural Center, as well as other projects un-



derway. One major construction project, the swimming pool, is "literally a reality," she said. "You can see it coming to be. And one of the good things is we researched and planned for the pool."

Evening Star photos by Annette Alvidres

Nightwatch

Mighty Oak Is Still A Little Nuts

By Kevin Grable

Art Linkletter once wrote a book entitled "People Are Funny."

One of these days, when I get the time and the ambition, I am going to author a similar

I think I'll call it "People Are Crazy."

Linkletter's book contained all kinds of examples which proved its basic premise. People were funny — at least to him.

He wrote of many amusing conversations, incidents, and goof-ups.

It's about this time every year that I begin

to go through withdrawal. Basketball is over

except for the playoffs, baseball has not yet

gotten into the swing of things, and football

is so far off that it is still a dream.

Panic sets in as the post-season football

Basketball momentarily relieved the pres-

sure and helped ease the pain of the sudden

end of the football season, but like a heroin

addict who has refused his methadone treat-

before the beginning of football season ex-

I must now face the next four months

I think I could survive on baseball, but I know I can't have any faith in the "Big Blue

Wrecking Crew" (Los Angeles Dodgers)

because they will only crumble under the

pressure of the "Big Red Machine" (Cin-

value of the news just to increase ratings?

Doggedly, I try to keep my chin up and

Much criticism has been aimed recently at television news and the

The same can be said, in many cases, about newspapers and magazines. Fact, importance, and truth are often secondary to sex,

Obviously enough, we live in a commercial world, where the name

But the problem comes in when principles are compromised for

ABC Anchorperson Barbara Walters, in an interview with the Los

profit. Is it necessary, for instance, to compromise the quality and

Angeles Times, commented, "That's the way it is. We live in a com-

mercial world, that is the American system, so be it . . . It is a conflict,

but it does not mean that the New York Times is going to print nudie

photographs, and it does not mean that ABC News is going to have

commodity - informative news - and it will probably hurt them in

principles from a community newspaper in simpler times.

Record-Ledger, a community newspaper in Sunland-Tujunga:

Strangers and people living at a distance instinctively judg community to a great degree by the character of the paper that is

published there. If they have never seen the town itself the newspaper

that purports to represent it is the visible token by which their impres-

Maybe not, but ABC and others have compromised a valuable

It is therefore refreshing to read a simple statement of values and

The following was first published on February 1, 1923, in the

tendency toward a commercialized show business format as opposed

ments, I soon will be without basketball.

blues take their toll.

isting on baseball alone.

not think about it but -

sensationalism, and sales

of the game is "sell.

chorus girls.

cinatti Reds).

But things have changed; people aren't funny any more.

They're nuts.

Withdrawal Sets In Each

Year About This Time

They go to see movies like The Exorcist and The Omen, they go on rides that turn them upside down hundreds of feet in the

Just to get the bejesus scared out of them. There has to be something better to do for

And there is. Just look at the "Recreational Vehicle" Syndrome.

I'm there with the Rams again on the one-

inch line as they go for a field goal instead of

Minnesota blocks the kick and any

They say talking helps, but all talk only

I find myself fondling my season ticket

Who knows? Maybe the NFL will begin

By July I'll be devouring the sports sec-

Is there any hope in sight? Maybe the

tion for any news of the upcoming season,

reading the predictions of how the Rams will

stubs and searching the sports section for

the season early this year. Alas, only a

turns to the season that was and could have

chance of the Rams bid for Super Bowl XI

a touchdown on fourth down.

any football tidbits.

journey to Super Bowl XII.

Oh, well, tennis anyone?

Schick Center can help.

Television Now vs. Community

wishful dream.

love - to bung up, that is.

equipment that will get you over rougher terrain and into deeper wilderness than ever

Take, for instance, the people in Apart-

Every morning I have had the misfortune to be home between 9 and 10 a.m. I have been treated to Led Zeppelin - or some similarly sickening "band" — at 90 decibels

And this brings us to economic insanity. The crew in No. 8 — I'm not sure how many of them there are — are being evicted. When we moved in, our manager informed us not to worry about them.

ing a nuisance, but because they owe some

bad? They are all young and seemingly ablebodied. So why didn't they go and look for

I guess that just isn't as much fun as listening to Led Zeppelin and getting stoned.

In the middle of a worldwide energy shortage that promises to get worse before it gets better, the RV freaks climb into their eightcylinder Broncos, drive a couple of hundred miles, pull off the road, and proceed to foul up miles and miles of virgin wilderness. Or

It all depends on which kind of nature you

RV magazines carry ads which boast of

Soon we will be able to go any place we want, and there won't be any place left to go. Another example of this malady is the TV/Stereo Syndrome. This is a disease that requires constant audio and visual disturbances for the afflicted to survive.

ment No. 8 across the courtyard from mine. They don't just listen to the noise; they ap-

parently require it.

The noise starts early and sometimes continues late into the night.

' They are being removed, not only for be-\$600 in back rent.

How could they let the situation get this

sloppily printed they place the town from which it comes in a cor-

effort to live up to the character and ideals of the Verdugo Hills, and to give its readers a paper that they will be able to send to their friends

in other cities and other states without having to accompany it with a

It is our ambition to make the Record-Ledger as good a newspaper

both in subject matter and typographical appearance as one would ex-

pect to find in cities like Glendale, Pasadena, Hollywood or Riverside.

Naturally we cannot carry so many pages as papers in cities of 20,000

to 40,000 inhabitants with a correspondingly large advertising

the Record-Ledger represents as well as a thorough respect for the

character and quality of the communities of the Verdugo Hills as they

are today. And we want to make this paper a visual expression of this

confidence and respect, so that if a stranger sees the Record-Ledger

among a pile of Southern California weeklies he will class the Ver-

dugo Hills, in his mental appraisement, with the progressive,

enterprising, forward-looking places and not with the dejected and

prematurely senile communities that are petrified in the small town

We shall appreciate if our readers will compare the Record-Ledger

with other weekly newspapers published elsewhere. If it is a good

paper, tell your neighbors so. If you see chances for improvement tell

us about it, because we are constantly trying to make it better. And if

the Record-Ledger seems to you to be a worthy representative of the

Verdugo Hills, send a copy to your friend who may become interested

here, or better still, enter a subscription in his name.

But we have great confidence in the growth and future of the field

patronage to support them.

Appreciating these facts the Record-Ledger is making an earnest

responding rank. They associate a hick paper with a hick town.

Feedback

Do you think the California death penalty should be restored?

Interviews were conducted by Ellen Shenker; photographs by Rose M. Seidler.

Wow, that's a hard decision. Who are we to say that they should get the death penalty? That's just one human killing another human. I think they should just spend the rest of their days in solitary.



Margarita Page Age: 20, Major: Secretarial

I have mixed emotions, but basically I think it is a deterrent to crime. Especially for the type of crime where capital punishment is used.

Vito Romano Age: 30, Major: Economics

Yes, I think it should be restored because the only thing people understand is discipline. You slap them on the wrists and then they just walk away. I say if they kill somebody, they're just going to have to suffer the consequences.



Michael Blake Age: 20, Major: Cinema and Theater Arts

I don't think so. I really can't tell you why. I just think it's cruel.

Angela Herbert Age: 20, Major: Business

I feel they should get some sort of punishment. It all depends upon how much of a crime it is. They should be punished according to that. Sometimes punishment is better than death.



Pearl Lederich Age: 20, Major: Child Development

Yes, because there are too many nuts running around. A good friend of mine got killed recently and it was by a guy who was out of prison on a furlough.

Lloyd Binns Age: 29, Major: Computer Science

The death penalth has always been arbitrarily applied all over the world, so I think you're best off to just abolish it. I can see things like mandatory sentences of incarceration and removal of people from society who



may injure society. I can't see where bumping them off would do anything but incite other people to kill.

Howard Eulencamp

sions are unconsciously formed. If the paper is carelessly edited and



evening valley star

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Thurston Speaks on Valley Issues

Continued from Page 1

Question: Are you going to use it?
Dr. Thurston: I probably will. I'm not a very good swimmer.

Question: Will you break the ribbon or christen it?

Dr. Thurston: Not by jumping in. I'll get somebody else to do that!

Question: Recently, Valley began removing its funds from Bank of America because they participated in the Arab boycott of Israel. How do you feel about this issue?

Dr. Thurston: The Bank of America situation, I think you know my feelings on that very well. Well, as I told you (the press) at the time, I wish the whole issue had not become so emotional so that people would have been more willing to examine the issues. I really didn't feel, and I still don't think that we were fair to the Bank of America because their side, their point of view, how they had actually operated was never really examined.

Question: You say it became emotional.

Dr. Thurston: It became a "moral issue" without anybody being told where and what the "moral issue" was, except this big not-to-well-understood thing called boycott.

Question: What do you think of Santa Clarita Bank?

Dr. Thurston: Well, I don't think there will be any particular problems. But I think if Santa Clarita were an international bank, Santa Clarita would have handled the situation precisely like Bank of America did. Because all the international banks did.

Question: Has the transfer been com-

Dr. Thurston: I haven't checked with (Howard) Fink, (Valley's fiscal administrator) recently, but I know that it's been in progress. I suspect it will probably take to July 1 to complete it.

Question: How do you think this affected your relations with people on campus, the students mainly?

Dr. Thurston: Well, for a while, it obviously impaired them. I have not felt that there was any permanent kind of impairment. My feeling is it's pretty well worn off.

For one thing, I don't carry any grudges. Once the thing is done, why then we go on and work it out as best we can.

I obviously am not bearing any grievances against the Star because I told you I'm trying to get you (Star) more money next year.

(Here, Dr. Thurston speaks of publicity both Valley Star and Evening Star have given her in regard to her involvement in issues such as the Bank of America situation.)

Question: In relation to Star, what do you think of the coverage?

Dr. Thurston: I do feel that the paper needs to make a special effort adequately to cover important college events. I know that's difficult, because those of you who are on the editorial board have particular interests and particular biases. So somebody goes out and does a story on something else that's happening and maybe it isn't a very good story, or as you get an excellent story on something which also fits your (Star's) interests, and that's the one that tends to get published.

But I think the paper needs to make a special effort to cover the events of Jewish students, Black Awareness Week, Chicano

Awareness Week, Women's Awareness Week, the Economics Club, lectures on campus that are really outstanding ... whether or not they happen to fit the particular interest of somebody on the staff.

Question: Do you feel that this has been neglected?

Dr. Thurston: To some extent, yes. And there are people in these various groups who feel that whatever they've done has not been adequately covered. So, there are problems on both sides and I hope that in the Fall there can be a meeting to talk about these things. Not with anybody criticizing anybody, but to see what can be done.

Question: What do you see as the role of a college newspaper?

Dr. Thurston: A college newspaper has a special responsibility to cover all the news that's fit to print on campus.

Question: We know that you have been greatly involved in the creation of the Students in Humanistic Exploration Center, better known as S-he. How do you feel about its progress since it began almost a year ago?

Dr. Thurston: Well, the S-he center began originally to be a women's center. And then along came Title IX, which is the anti-sex discrimination act. And we felt that it really wasn't right to have anything exclusively for one sex. It would be as unfair to have something exclusively for women as it would be to have it exclusively for men.

And, also, a lot of the men were saying, "Well, what about us? Why can't we have a center, too?"

So, the idea for the S-he (hyphenated to include the men) center evolved. I think there's been some criticism of the S-he center and the new practices involved like exploring sex roles and attitudes and practices. And my answer to that was "go get active on your advisory committee and tell them." We'll be perfectly open.

This year we really did the thing on a shoestring. We assigned a counselor over there and like everything else, it could use more money.

Almost two years later, Dr. Thurston has become the center of many projects and isues at Valley College. People have come to love her and dislike her.

But she would be the first to say she is happy with this. People don't talk to someone who is inactive.

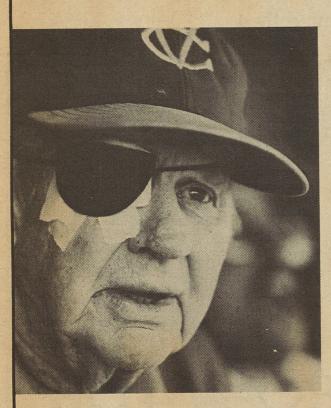
Falling Star

Future publication of the Evening Valley Star is in doubt because of tightening budget restrictions and a takeover of the Valley Star's advertising money by the District.

If you wish to see publication of the Evening Valley Star continue, please write to the District's Board of Trustees and voice your concern.

Send all letters to:
Los Angeles Community College
District
Board of Trustees
2140 West Olympic Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

The Wars of Spring Continue



Expressive faces and high speed actions tell the story of the wars of spring

On the left, Nelson "Yazoo" Gary (nicknamed for his home town) intently watches the play during a recent Valley game. He hasn't missed a game in years and is respected and well liked by the players.

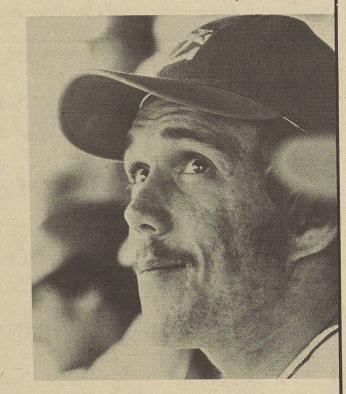
On the right, pitcher Mark Saraceno seems to reflect a mirror image of Gary, illustrating the traditions that carry on from year to year

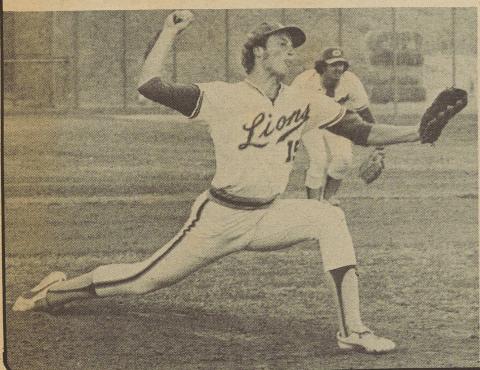
Wendell Worth, below left, delivers a pitch, and in the lower right photo, catcher Bob Hannick slides in head first.

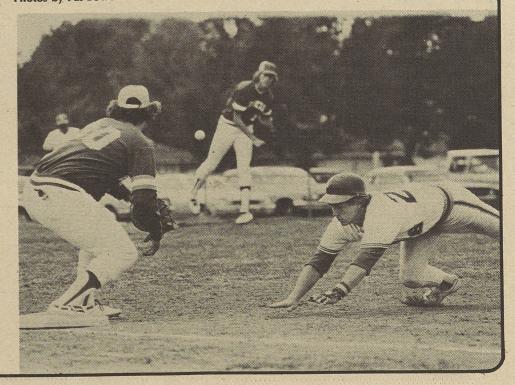
Mr. Gary, who has spent many enjoyable years watching and playing baseball, died Saturday, May 28, in a Burbank hospital of a heart attack.

He is survived by his widow, Helen, and a son, Nelson, who played team baseball in both high school and college, in spite of the fact that he has only one arm.

Photos by Pat Bower







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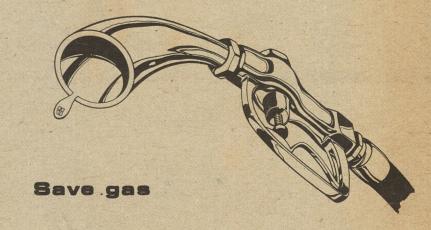
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